



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hans NUSSKERN, et al

Application No. 09/743,738

Confirmation No. 7535

Filed: January 16, 2001

For: MECHANICAL CONNECTING  
ELEMENT

Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: Ernesto Garcia

Atty. Docket No.: 39129-183650

Customer No.

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

22/Jan 10  
LA  
2-5-04

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

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FEB 03 2004

**GROUP 3600**

In response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.